

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:BZOOK:RVC

APPROVED BY EUR:JLOWENSTEIN

ACDA:RROCHLIN

PM/DCA-EIFFT

C:JKELLY

S/S -JPMOFFAT

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 178982 TOSEC 080142

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, PARM

SUBJECT: BREZHNEV'S PROPOSAL FOR NEW WEAPON BAN

FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

FOR S/S: PLEASE INSERT FOLLOWING PAPER IN BRIEFING BOOK
FOR PRESIDENT'S CONVERSATION WITH BREZHNEV.

1. FOLLOWING IS TALKING POINTS/ISSUES PAPER ON BREZHNEV'S
CALL FOR NEW WEAPON BAN.

2. TALKING POINTS (IF RAISED BY BREZHNEV)

-- WE NOTED THE PROPOSAL IN YOUR ELECTION SPEECH FOR A
MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT BANNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

-- CAN YOU ELABORATE FURTHER ON THE PROPOSAL? IN PARTI-
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CULAR, WAT RESTRAINTS DOES THE SOVIET SIDE INTEND TO
EXERCISE?

-- IT WOULD BE TO OUR MUTUAL INTEREST TO PREVENT THE ARMS

RACE FROM SPREADING INTO NEW FIELDS BEYOND THOSE TO BE

COVERED BY OUR SALT II AGREEMENT, BUT WE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A CLEARER IDEA OF HOW AN AGREEMENT MIGHT LOOK AND HOW IT COULD BE VERIFIED BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER IT IS WORTH EXPLORING IN MORE DETAIL.

3. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

-- IN HIS JUNE 13 ELECTION SPEECH BREZHNEV CALLED FOR A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE "BIG POWERS", BANNING NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. HIS STATEMENT WAS SIMILAR TO THE PROPOSAL IN THE SOVIET OCTOBER 1973 SALT DRAFT TREATY CALLING FOR LIMITATION OR PROHIBITION OF NEW STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS NOT COVERED BY A SALT AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THOSE BASED ON OTHER PHYSICAL PRINCIPLES. ALTHOUGH THIS PROPOSAL WAS DROPPED WITHOUT EXPLANATION FROM THE SOVIET SALT DRAFT TABLED IN FEBRUARY 1975, THE SOVIETS HAVE A PROVISION IN THEIR CURRENT DRAFT SALT AGREEMENT CALLING FOR THE EXERCISE OF RESTRAINT IN DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STRATEGIC WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

-- IN HIS JULY 2 DISCUSSION OF HIS PROPOSAL WITH THE HUMPHREY/SCOTT DELEGATION, BREZHNEV SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE B-1 AS ONE TYPE OF WEAPON DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM HE WISHED TO FORECLOSE. HE ALLUDED TO "PRE-VLADIVOSTOK SOVIET PROPOSALS" FOR MUTUAL RESTRAINTS IN WHICH THE US WOULD FOREGO DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRIDENT SSBN AND THE B-1 BOMBER IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SOVIETS NOT CONSTRUCTING THE "TYPHOON" AND THE "IL-22". BREZHNEV DID NOT DEFINE EXACTLY WHAT THE LATTER TWO SOVIET WEAPONS ARE, OR WHETHER THEY ARE ACTUALLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT, BUT THE FORMER IS EVIDENTLY A PLANNED SSBN AND THE LATTER A PLANNED HEAVY BOMBER. HE ADDED THAT HE ALSO HAD IN MIND NEW KINDS OF WEAPONS THAT MAY BE INVENTED IN THE FUTURE.

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-- IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE HUMPHREY/SCOTT DELEGATION, SUSLOV FLESHED OUT THE BREZHNEV IDEA SOMEWHAT BY SAYING THAT HE FELT THE US AND THE USSR SHOULD PLAY A "SPECIAL ROLE" IN WORKING OUT A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT. THEY MAY BE THINKING OF USING "RESTRAINT" ARTICLES IN A SALT II AGREEMENT AS THE TAKEOFF POINT FOR A MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE BREZHNEV PROPOSAL WILL SURFACE AT THE UNGA SESSION THIS FALL AS THE CENTERPIECE OF MOSCOW'S "PEACE" PROGRAM AND NEW CONTRIBUTION TO THE "MILITARY DETENTE" ERA.

4. CLEARED: ACDA (ROCHLIN); PM/DCA (IFFT); C (KELLY); INGERSOLL

SECRET

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